

213252US-0 PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :
BRUNO PROVOT ET AL : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION
SERIAL NO: NEW US PCT APPLN. :
(BASED ON PCT/FR00/00521)
FILED: HEREWITH :
FOR: NEUTRON ABSORBENT MATERIAL
CONTAINING BORON CARBIDE AND
HAFNIUM, AND PROCESS FOR
MANUFACTURING THIS MATERIAL

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

4. (Amended) Process according to claim 1, in which the grain size of the boron carbide powder ranges up to approximately 50 μm .
5. (Amended) Process according to claim 1, in which the grain size of the hafnium powder ranges up to approximately 20 μm .